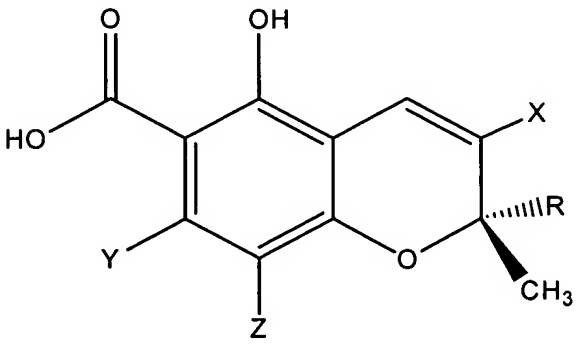
IN THE CLAIMS

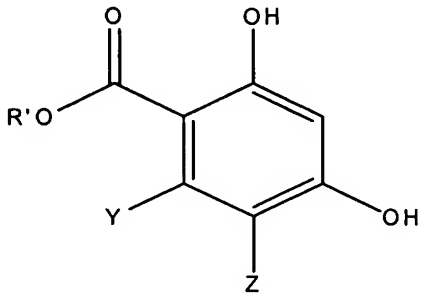
Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A method for preparing a compound of formula (1)



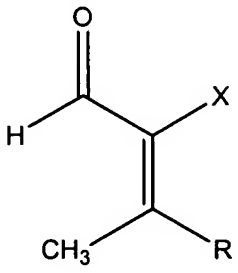
(1)

wherein R, X, Y, and Z are organic substituents that do not interfere with the condensation of (2) and (3), comprising (a) condensing a compound of formula (2):



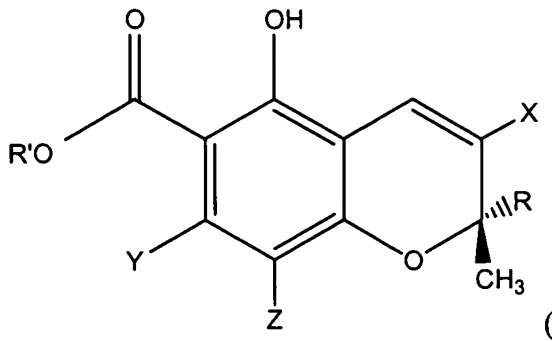
(2)

wherein R′ is a carboxylic acid protecting group, with a compound of formula (3):



(3)

in the presence of an effective amount of $CaCl_2$, $N[(C_2\text{-}C_4)alkyl]_3$ and $[(C_1\text{-}C_4)alkyl]OH$ and microwave irradiation to yield a compound of formula (**4**):



(**4**);

and (b) optionally removing protecting R′ to yield a compound of formula (**1**).

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein Y is $(C_1\text{-}C_4)alkyl$.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein Y is methyl.

4. (Original) The method of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein X and/or Z are H.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein $N[(C_2\text{-}C_4)alkyl]_3$ is triethylamine ~~NEt_3~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 wherein $[(C_1\text{-}C_4)alkyl]OH$ is ethanol ~~EtOH~~.

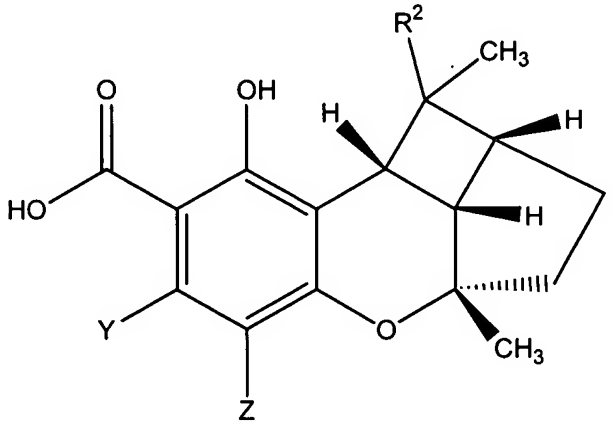
7. (Original) The method of claims 1, 2, 3 or 4 wherein R′ is 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethyl.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein R′ is removed with TBAF.

9. (Original) The method of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein R is $C_3\text{-}C_{22}$ alkyl optionally comprising 1-3 double bonds.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein R is a terpene.

11. (Original) The method of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein X is H, further comprising irradiating the compound of formula **1**, wherein R is $-CH_2CH_2CH=C(CH_3)R^2$, wherein R^2 is the remainder of organic group R, to yield a compound of formula (**6**):

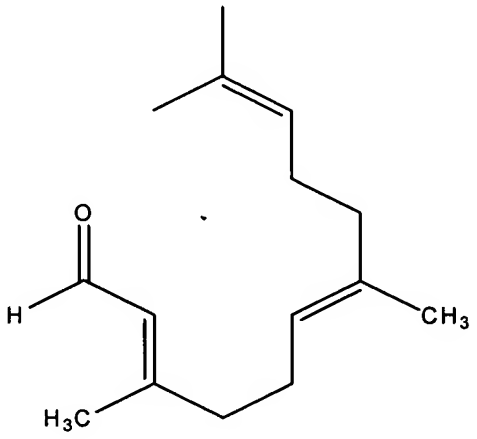


(6)

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein R^2 is $-CH_2CH_2CH=C(Me)_2$.

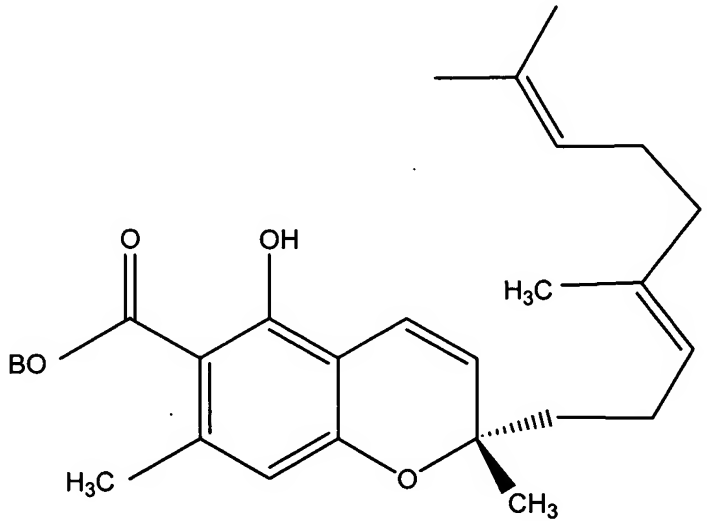
13. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein Y is CH_3 and Z is H.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing daurichromenic acid (**1a**), comprising (a) reacting ~~2-methyl-4,5-dihydroxybenzoic~~ 2-methyl-4,6-dihydroxybenzoic acid having a carboxy-protecting group with a compound of the formula (**3a**):



(3a)

in the presence of an effective amount of $CaCl_2$-$2H_2O$, NEt_3 and microwave irradiation to yield a compound of the formula **(4a)**:



(4a)

wherein B is a carboxy-protecting group, and (b) removing B to yield daurichromenic acid.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein B is 2-TMS(ethyl) or (C_1-C_4)alkyl.

16. (Original) The method of claims 14 or 15 wherein daurichromenic acid (**1a**) is converted into rhododaurichromenic acid A (**5a**) and rhododaurichromenic acid B (**6a**) by irradiation.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula **1, 1a, 4, 4a, 5a, 6 or 6a** in combination with a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier or vehicle.

19. (Original) A dyestuff comprising an effective amount of a compound of formula **1, 1a, 4, 4a, 5a, 6 or 6a.**

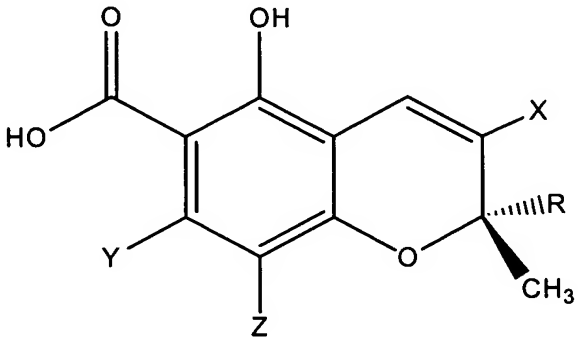
20. (Original) An antibacterial or herbicidal composition comprising an effective amount of a compound of formula **1, 1a, 4, 4a, 5a, 6 or 6a.**

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 wherein R′ is 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethyl.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21 wherein R′ is removed with TBAF.

23. (Previously Presented) A method of treating HIV infection or AIDS in a mammal in need of such treatment comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of formula **1, 1a, 4, 4a, 5a, 6** or **6a** to said mammal.

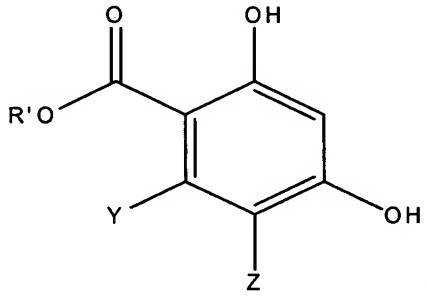
24. (New) A method for preparing a compound of formula (**1**)



(**1**)

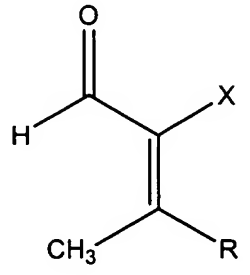
comprising:

(a) condensing a compound of formula (**2**):



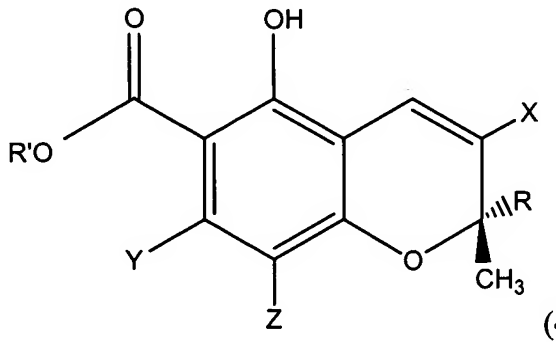
(**2**)

wherein R′ is a carboxylic acid protecting group, with a compound of formula (**3**):



(**3**)

in the presence of an effective amount of $CaCl_2$, $N[(C_2\text{-}C_4)alkyl]_3$ and $[(C_1\text{-}C_4)alkyl]OH$ and microwave irradiation to yield a compound of formula (**4**):



(4);

wherein R, X, Y, and Z each independently comprise a moiety selected from hydrogen; C_1-C_{27} alkyl optionally straight chain or branched, optionally comprising about 1 to about 4 double bonds; aryl, optionally substituted with about 1 to about 3 alkyl, alkoxy, halo, or $N(R_aR_b)$ wherein R_a and R_b are independently about C_1 to about C_6-alkyl; about C_1 to about C_6-alkoxy; heteroaryl; (about C_1 to about C_{30} alkyl)-aryl, wherein the alkyl chain is optionally straight chain or branched and may further comprise about 1 to about 4 double bonds and the aryl group is optionally substituted with about 1 to about 3 alkyl, alkoxy, halo, or $N(R_aR_b)$ wherein R_a and R_b are independently about C_1 to about C_6-alkyl; (about C_1 to about C_{30} alkyl)-heteroaryl, wherein the alkyl chain is optionally straight chain or branched and may further comprise about 1 to about 4 double bonds; cyano; carboxyamido; alkoxycarbonyl; alkylcarbonyloxy; alkoxycarbonyloxy; or $N(R_aR_b)$ wherein Ra and Rb are independently H, (about C1 to about C6)-alkyl;

and

(b) optionally removing protecting R′ to yield a compound of formula (**1**).

25. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein Y is $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl.

26. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein Y is methyl.

27. (New) The method of claims 24, 25, or 26 wherein X and/or Z are H.

28. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein $N[(C_2$-$C_4)alkyl]_3$ is triethylamine.

29. (New) The method of claim 28 wherein [(C_1-C_4)alkyl]OH is ethanol.

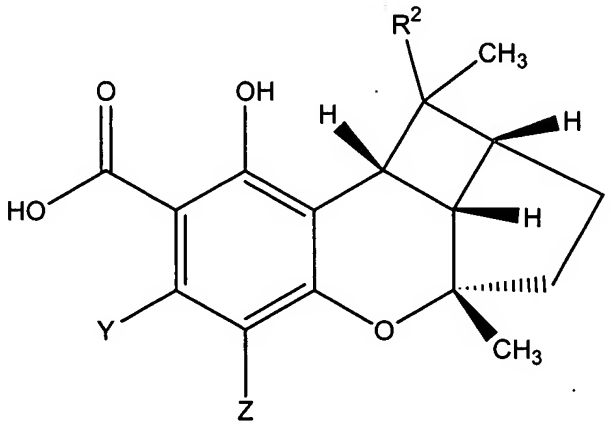
30. (New) The method of claims 24, 25, 26, or 27 wherein R′ is 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethyl.

31. (New) The method of claim 30 wherein R′ is removed with TBAF.

32. (New) The method of claims 24, 25, or 26 wherein R is C_3-C_{22} alkyl optionally comprising 1-3 double bonds.

33. (New) The method of claim 32 wherein R is a terpene.

34. (New) The method of claims 24, 25, or 26 wherein X is H, further comprising irradiating the compound of formula **1**, wherein R is $-CH_2CH_2CH=C(CH_3)R^2$, wherein R^2 is the remainder of organic group R, to yield a compound of formula (**6**):



(6)

35. (New) The method of claim 34 wherein R^2 is $-CH_2CH_2CH=C(Me)_2$.

36. (New) The method of claim 34 wherein Y is CH_3 and Z is H.